



NEWS RELEASE

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Palmdale Unified School District Administrator Charged with Dog Fighting, Animal Cruelty

An assistant superintendent at the Palmdale Unified School District pleaded not guilty today to more than two dozen charges including dog fighting and animal cruelty, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Lyle Riggs said Pauline Ruth Winbush (dob 9/12/62) and her boyfriend Kevin Ray Williams (dob 3/15/64) face four felony counts of dog fighting, 17 felony counts of cruelty to an animal and one felony count of child abuse.

Case MA064988 includes seven Los Angeles County code violations, including unsanitary conditions and failing to license and vaccinate the dogs.

Winbush pleaded not guilty today and is due to return on Jan. 12 in Department A2 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Antelope Valley Branch. Williams is scheduled to be arraigned later today in Department A1.

According to the prosecutor, animal control officers discovered a horse belonging to the defendants roaming the streets on Oct. 29. Numerous additional animals were discovered later at the couple's Antelope Acres home.

Among the animals were dogs that were allegedly kept inside crates filled with feces and urine which were stored inside the house where the defendants and a minor lived, the prosecutor added. A total of 19 pit bulls were recovered from the home and had to be euthanized. Riggs said that some of the dogs showed signs of being used for dogfighting.

Bail for Winbush was set at \$250,000 and the prosecutor is recommending \$440,000 bail for Williams.

Williams and Winbush face a possible maximum sentence of 13 years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.